

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

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Inventor: **Kreisler LAU, et al.**

Examiner: **J. Mullis**

Serial No: **Div. of 09/545,058**

Art Unit: **1711**

Filed: **April 7, 2000**

For: **Low Dielectric Constant
Organic Dielectrics Based on
Cage-Like Structures**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box Patent Application
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Mr. Mullis:

Please enter the following preliminary amendment:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-18 and add the following claims:

22. (Added) A low dielectric constant material, comprising:
- a first backbone having a first aromatic moiety comprising a phenyl and a first reactive group;
 - a second backbone having a second aromatic moiety comprising a phenyl and a second reactive group, wherein the first and second backbones are crosslinked without an exogenous crosslinker via the first and second reactive groups in a crosslinking reaction; and
 - a cage structure covalently bound to at least one of the first and second backbones, wherein the cage structure comprises at least 10 atoms, and wherein at least one of the first and second reactive groups is ethynyl.